

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 634**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Lieber**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members DeVore, Shirley Horton,**  
**Oropeza, and Pavley)**  
**(Coauthor: Senator Speier)**

February 17, 2005

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An act to add Part 5 (commencing with Section 600) to Division 3 of the Family Code, relating to international marriage brokers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 634, as introduced, Lieber. International marriage brokers.

Existing law provides that marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between a man and a woman. Existing federal law prescribes the manner in which a United States citizen may marry a foreign national, as specified.

Under specified circumstances, this bill would require an international marriage broker, as defined, to provide information to a foreign recruit, as defined, in his or her language, consisting of a client's criminal and marital history information, as specified, basic rights information, and information on domestic violence.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Part 5 (commencing with Section 600) is added
- 2 to Division 3 of the Family Code, to read:

1       PART 5. INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKERS

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3       600. For purposes of this part:

4       (a) “Basic rights information” means information about human  
5 rights, immigration, and emergency assistance and resources, and  
6 victim rights under California law with regard to domestic  
7 violence.

8       (b) “Client” means a person who is a resident of California  
9 who contracts with an international marriage broker to meet  
10 recruits.

11       (c) “Criminal history information” means criminal history  
12 information obtained from a criminal background check.

13       (d) “International marriage broker” means any person,  
14 corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other legal entity  
15 that does business in California and offers to California residents  
16 dating, matrimonial, or social referral services involving recruits  
17 by doing any of the following in-state:

18       (1) Exchanging names, telephone numbers, addresses, or  
19 statistics.

20       (2) Selecting photographs.

21       (3) Providing a social environment for introducing clients to  
22 recruits in a country other than the United States.

23       (e) “Marital history information” means a declaration of a  
24 person’s current marital status, the number of times the person  
25 has been married, and whether any marriage occurred as a result  
26 of receiving services from an international marriage broker.

27       (f) “Recruit” means a person who is not a citizen or resident of  
28 the United States and who is recruited by an international  
29 marriage broker for the purpose of providing dating,  
30 matrimonial, or social referral services.

31       601. Prior to the release of any contact information of a  
32 recruit, an international marriage broker shall first obtain his or  
33 her consent to the release of that information.

34       602. Any client who applies for a foreign fiancée visa for a  
35 recruit shall undergo a criminal background check, and shall,  
36 prior to making that application, provide his or her criminal  
37 history information and marital history information to the  
38 international marriage broker for purposes of Section 603.

39       603. (a) Pursuant to Section 602, an international marriage  
40 broker shall provide the recruit with the criminal history

1 information and marital history information of the client and  
2 basic rights information.

3 (b) The information in subdivision (a) shall be provided in the  
4 recruit's native language and displayed in a manner that  
5 comports with the following:

6 (1) Separates the criminal history information, the marital  
7 history information, and the basic rights information from any  
8 other information.

9 (2) Is easily accessible and highly visible.

10 (c) An international marriage broker shall refrain from  
11 providing any further services to the recruit or client until the  
12 broker has obtained and provided the recruit the information  
13 described in subdivisions (a) and (b).